



The Lake George Land Conservancy is a land trust working to preserve the world-renowned water quality of Lake George and the rare plants and animals within its watershed by permanently protecting natural lands.

Founded in 1988, the Lake George Land Conservancy uses progressive conservation strategies to work with landowners, government officials, conservation partners, volunteers, and supporters aimed at securing the protection of special natural places for future generations to enjoy.

The Lake George Land Conservancy, a not-for-profit, member-supported organization, relies on the support of generous individuals, corporations, and foundations. Donations are tax-deductible to the full extent of the law and deeply appreciated.

To date, more than 1,300 concerned individuals, who live, work and vacation around Lake George, have helped the Lake George Land Conservancy and its partners protect more than 8 miles of shoreline and 10,660 acres of land around Lake George.

WE NEED YOUR HELP

Please become a member today by completing the information on the reverse and mailing this card with your donation. All donors receive the benefits of membership with the Lake George Land Conservancy, which include our full-color newsletter, advance notices of outdoor excursions and events through our Nature Walks and Talks program, and invitations to other special events hosted by the Lake George Land Conservancy.

Natural History of The Great Blue HERON



In addition to the expansive view overlooking Gull Bay, the Gull Bay Preserve boasts another ecological feature: a great blue heron rookery, or nesting colony.

Heron rookeries can contain up to hundreds of nests, which are constructed out of sticks in March and April. Usually

located in standing water, the colonies are well protected from nest predation by animals such as raccoons and opossums. Three to five eggs are laid in April and are incubated by both parents for approximately 28 days. Eight weeks after hatching, the young begin learning to fly, and at ten weeks, they leave the nest and are completely independent. These herons feed primarily on fish, but also eat frogs, insects, rodents, and small birds.

The great blue heron is North America's largest and most widely distributed heron. In the summer, the herons are found as far north as Newfoundland, and in the winter, can be found from the Chesapeake Bay to Venezuela.

Great blue herons are an extremely important wildlife species because their presence is a good indicator of high water quality. Care must be taken to maintain the water quality of the Lake George watershed, and subsequently help to preserve important heron habitat. Visitors to heron rookeries should be very careful not to disturb the birds and rookery in the spring, as too much disturbance will force the herons to relocate the rookery.

Preserve Guidelines

- Please hike only on the marked trails shown on the enclosed map.
- Please be courteous of other guests at the preserve.
- No unauthorized removal of plants or animals.
- No camping, fires, motorized or non-motorized recreational vehicles of any kind allowed on the preserve.
- No pets, leashed or unleashed.
- Please park only in the provided lot. If all spaces are full, please come back another time.
- Do not park along the roadway or on any neighboring property.
- Please do not litter. Help keep the preserve clean for all to enjoy.



DIRECTIONS TO PRESERVE TRAILHEAD:

From Ticonderoga, New York: From the intersection of Montcalm Street and Route 22, turn south on Route 22 for 9.5 miles. Turn right (west) onto Gull Bay Road. At approximately 1.75 miles, turn right onto Sagamore Road. At 0.6 miles, turn right into the preserve's driveway and parking area.



Lake Shore Drive, P.O. Box 1250
Bolton Landing, NY 12814
(518) 644-9673
www.lglc.org

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www.carlheilman.com.



Gull Bay PRESERVE

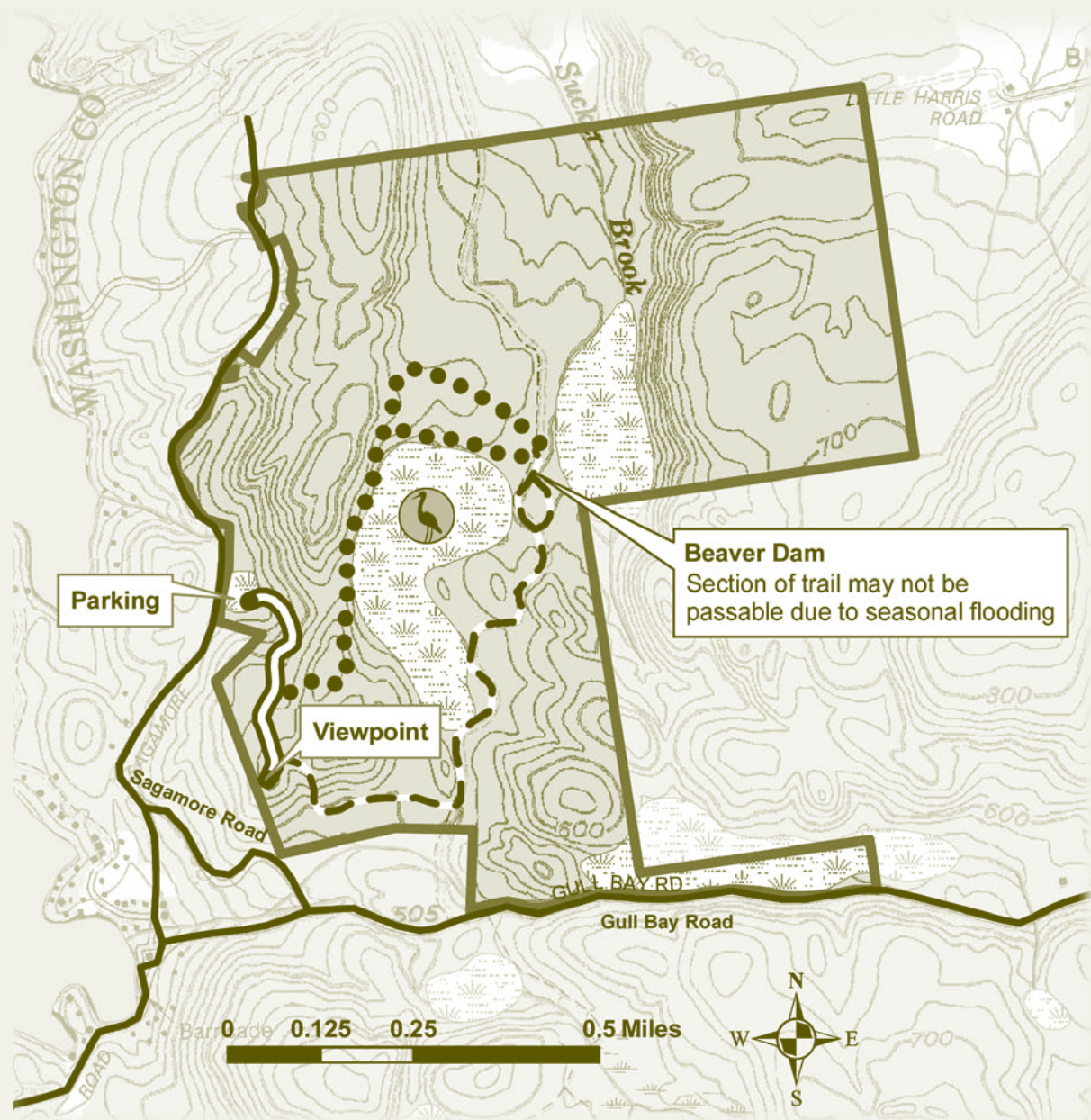
*nature
is our future*

A Brief Description of the
Gull Bay
 PRESERVE

The Lake George Land Conservancy's purchase of the Gull Bay Preserve, located in the Town of Putnam, Washington County, marked a significant conservation success in 2003. This 472-acre woodland hillside property contains old logging roads and two wetland swamps which represent the southern portion of Sucker Brook, one of the most important wetlands in the Lake George watershed. In autumn, significant numbers of migratory waterfowl rest in the wetland before their journey south to warmer climates. The western side of the property has a magnificent scenic vista of Lake George. The Lake George Land Conservancy maintains 2.3 miles of hiking trails and hosts nature excursions on the property as part of its Walks & Talks program.

From the parking area, the blue trail follows an old logging road uphill for less than half a mile, and ends at an overlook that peeks out onto Gull Bay and to the south over Lake George. The orange and yellow trails cut off from the blue trail below the overlook and loop around either side of the wetland to the heron rookery and beaver dam. The yellow trail follows the western ridge and creates a loop through a fern-laden forest at the rookery's northern end. Because of its proximity to the rookery, the yellow trail is closed to hikers during the great blue heron nesting months of April to early July to protect the sensitive rookery from human disturbance. The orange trail winds its way from the blue to follow the wetland's eastern side to the tip of the rookery and includes a small loop at its northern end, where hikers will find the best view of the heron nests.

*Please use caution when hiking.
 Enjoy your visit and please come again!*



	Blue Trail	0.3 miles
	Yellow Trail	1.0 mile (open seasonally)
	Orange Trail	1.0 mile
	Great blue heron rookery	

The Lake George Land Conservancy's nature preserves are open to the public from dawn to dusk year-round for educational, scientific, and passive recreational pursuits, such as hiking, cross-country skiing, snowshoeing, bird watching, and photography. Visit us online at www.lglc.org for information on our nature excursions and events, land protection, and preserving Lake George's unique natural heritage.

Yes! I want to help protect the pure water quality and natural diversity of Lake George for future generations to enjoy. Enclosed is my donation for membership in the Lake George Land Conservancy.

Name:

Address:

City, State: Zip:

Phone:

Email:

- \$35 MEMBER
- \$100 SUPPORTER
- \$500 PARTNER
- \$1,000 LEADER
- \$2,500 QUARTER CENTURY CLUB
- \$10,000 LIFETIME CONSERVATOR'S CLUB
- OTHER \$ _____

PAYMENT OPTIONS:

- My check payable to LGLC is enclosed.
- Please charge my (circle one):
 AmEx MC VISA

Card Number:

Exp. Date:

Signature:

MAIL THIS CARD WITH YOUR DONATION TO:

Lake George Land Conservancy
 Lake Shore Drive
 P.O. Box 1250
 Bolton Landing, NY 12814
 (518) 644-9673

Your contribution is tax-deductible. Thank you!